Remingtonocetus

Remingtonocetus is an extinct genus of early cetacean freshwater aquatic mammals of the family Remingtonocetidae endemic to the coastline of the ancient Tethys Ocean during the Eocene. It was named after naturalist Remington Kellogg.

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Description

Sahni & Mishra 1975 named *Protocetus harudiensis* based on a partial skeleton, the type specimen found in the <u>Lutetian</u> shallow <u>subtidal</u> mudstone in the <u>Harudi Formation</u>, <u>India</u>. <u>Kumar & Sahni 1986</u> reassigned it to Remingtonocetidae. [2]

Remingtonocetus domandaensis was named by <u>Gingerich</u> et al. 2001 based on a partial skeleton found in a <u>Lutetian</u> coastal shale in the Domanda Formation of Pakistan. [3]



Remingtonocetus harudiensis (cast of specimen IITR-SB 2770)

Remingtonocetus Temporal range: Middle Eocene, 45-43.5 Ma Pre€ € OS D C P T J K PgN Life restoration of R. harudiniensis. Scientific classification Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Mammalia Order: Artiodactyla Infraorder: Cetacea Family: †Remingtonocetidae Genus: †Remingtonocetus Kumar & Sahni 1986 Species^[1] R. harudiensis (type) Sahni & Mishra 1975 R. domandaensis Gingerich et al. 2001

Remingtonocetus is larger, has a broader <u>rostrum</u>, and longer <u>premolars</u> than <u>Andrewsiphius</u>. It is smaller than, has more gracile premolars and molars than <u>Dalanistes</u>. *R. harudiensis* differs from *R. domandaensis* in molar morphology.^[4]

<u>Gingerich et al. 2001</u> interpreted R. *domandaensis* as an older and more generalized species than R. *harudiensis*. Based on a morphological analysis, they concluded that the hindlimbs of *Remingtonocetus* were probably not weight-bearing, and that (1) the fused sacrum indicates a limitation in tail-powered locomotion, and (2) the presence of powerful hip extensors and femoral adductors indicates that *Remingtonocetus* was an efficient and specialized foot-powered swimmer. ^[5]

Remingtonocetus had four working and usable limbs, a slender <u>whale</u>-like body with long tail and slender, hydrodynamic head.

Taxonomy

Remingtonocetus was named by <u>Kumar & Sahni 1986</u>. Its type is *Protocetus harudiensis*. It was considered monophyletic by <u>Uhen et al. 2011</u>. It was assigned to Cetacea by <u>Sepkoski 2002</u>. To *Remingtonocetidae* by <u>Kumar & Sahni 1986</u>, <u>Gingerich & Russell 1990</u>, <u>Benton 1993</u>, <u>McKenna & Bell 1997</u>, <u>Bajpai & Thewissen 1998</u>, <u>Williams 1998</u>, <u>Thewissen et al. 2001</u>, <u>Gingerich et al. 2001</u>, <u>Geisler & Sanders 2003</u>, <u>McLeod & Barnes 2008</u> and <u>Uhen et al. 2011</u>.

See also

Evolution of cetaceans

Notes

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- 2. *Remingtonocetus harudiensis* (http://paleobiodb.org/cgi-bin/bridge.pl?a=checkTaxonInfo&taxon_n_no=63122) in the Paleobiology Database. Retrieved March 2013.
- 3. Remingtonocetus domandaensis (http://paleobiodb.org/cgi-bin/bridge.pl?a=checkTaxonInfo&ta xon_no=53239) in the Paleobiology Database. Retrieved March 2013.
- 4. Gingerich et al. 2001, pp. 289, 291
- 5. Gingerich et al. 2001, Discussion, pp. 293-4

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